

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 002514
ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 EB-08 /021 R

DRAFTED BY COMM:BIEPR:OTP/NGLICK
APPROVED BY EA/EP:AGEBER
COMM:BIEPR:SSKATZ
OMM:BEC:OIM:REISELT
COMM:BED:OED:DSGILPATRIC
STATE: EA:EP:DSTEBBING
STATE/EA/J:SECTION
-----082309 060830Z /21
R 052135Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652:

TAGS: BEXP, JA

SUBJECT: TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE - HANDLING OF
COMMUNICATIONS WITH AMERICAN COMPANIES

1. THE VOLUME OF REQUESTS DESCRIBING MARKET ACCESS
PROBLEMS IN JAPAN WILL INCREASE AS MORE AMERICAN FIRMS
REALIZE AVAILABILITY OF TFC HELP AND SUPPORT. FOLLOWING
PROCEDURE IS SUGGESTED FOR HANDLING CORRESPONDENCE TO
AVOID DUPLICATION OF EFFORTS IN ASSISTING BUSINESSMEN, AND
TO INSURE EXPEDITIOUS REVIEW OF CASES.

A. COMMERCE/INDUSTRY AND TRADE ADMINISTRATION (ITA-
FORMERLY DIBA) WILL COORDINATE COMMUNICATION WITH EMBASSY
ON ALL MARKET ACCESS COMPLAINTS AND WILL ADVISE PETITIONER
OF TFC ACTION ON EACH CASE. BUSINESSMEN WILL BE REQUESTED
TO SUBMIT IN WRITING ALL PERTINENT DETAILS ON PROBLEM
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TO USDOC/ITA. ITA WILL DETERMINE WHETHER CASE IS
ADEQUATELY DOCUMENTED AND APPROPRIATE FOR ACTION BY TFC.
IF AMERICAN COMPANY HAS REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN JAPAN
THAT WOULD PREPARE CASE MATERIAL, WE WILL SUGGEST THAT
JAPAN REP WRITE DIRECTLY TO EMBASSY AND COPY USDOC.

B. COPY OF PETITIONING COMPANY'S CASE MATERIAL WILL BE

FORWARDED TO EMBASSY WITH TRANSMITTAL SLIP. SUGGEST

EMBASSY RETURN TRANSMITTAL SLIP TO ITA AS CONFIRMATION
THAT MATERIAL HAS BEEN RECEIVED.

C. EMBASSY WOULD CABLE REPORT OF TFC ACTION WHICH ITA
WILL CONVEY IN TURN TO PETITIONER. SUGGEST EMBASSY
INCLUDE BRIEF SUMMARY OF PROBLEM IN CABLE SO ALL
INTERESTED USG AGENCIES ARE KEPT INFORMED OF TYPE OF
PROBLEMS CONSIDERED BY TFC AND ACTION TAKEN.

D. EMBASSY MAY DETERMINE AFTER REVIEW OF CASE MATERIAL
THAT PROBLEM IS NOT APPROPRIATE FOR TFC CONSIDERATION.
IN THOSE CASES, WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY INFORMING US
OF REASON FOR ITS DECISION SO WE MAY ADVISE AMERICAN
COMPANY. WE BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT IN MAINTAINING OUR
CREDIBILITY WITH U.S. BUSINESS THAT WE REPORT TO ALL
COMPANIES REQUESTING TFC ASSISTANCE WHAT ACTION TAKE' IN
THEIR BEHALF, INCLUDING DETERMINATION BY ITA OR EMBASSY
THAT PROBLEM DID NOT WARRANT TFC CONSIDERATION. WE
WOULD, OF COURSE, RECOMMEND, WHERE APPROPRIATE, OTHER
ACTION COMPANY MIGHT TAKE TO RESOLVE ITS PROBLEM.

2. WE HOPE TO AVOID CONFUSION WITH THOSE TRADE COMPLAINTS
AND REQUESTS FOR BUSINESS ASSISTANCE THAT ARE A TRADITION-
AL PART OF EMBASSY'S BUSINESS SERVICES AS, FOR EXAMPLE,
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THE RECENT CABLE ASKING ASSISTANCE FOR REINHART MFG. CO.
(USDOC 23088). THESE MESSAGES ARE GENERALLY SENT BY
USDOC, EXPORT INFORMATION DIVISION (EID), OFFICE OF
EXPORT DEVELOPMENT; EID WILL NO LONGER MENTION TRADE
FACILITATION IN SUBJECT HEADING.

3. SOME FIRMS MAY BE RELUCTANT TO BE IDENTIFIED IN TFC
BUT STILL WILLING TO PROVIDE INFORMATION IN CONFIDENCE
THAT COULD DESCRIBE AND BOLSTER A CASE AGAINST PARTICULAR
IMPORT BARRIERS. IN THESE SITUATIONS ALSO WE WILL ATTEMPT
TO GET PARTICULARS IN WRITING AND WILL FORWARD SUCH
INFORMATION TO EMBASSY AS INDICATED ABOVE, WITH THE
FIRMS' WISHES ON USE OF THE INFORMATION MADE CLEAR.

4. APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S COMMENTS ON AND/OR CONCURRENCE
WITH ABOVE RECOMMENDED PROCEDURE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780009-1198
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Litigation History:
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Office: ORIGIN COME
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 feb 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3822560
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE - HANDLING OF COMMUNICATIONS WITH AMERICAN COMPANIES
TAGS: BEXP, JA
To: TOKYO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e7a501e6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014